

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS NINTH PLENARY

TTBT/PNE MESSAGE NUMBER TWENTY FIVE

1. SUMMARY: NINTH PLENARY HELD MARCH 4. MOROKHOV INTRODUCED RODIONOV TO PRESENT SOVIET POSITION ON YIELD OF PNES. AFTER LAYING DOWN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL REASONS WHY PNES OF HIGH YIELD MAY BE REQUIRED, RODIONOV SAID THAT A LIMIT ON YIELD OF SINGLE EXPLOSIONS IS POSSIBLE, AND WOULD PRECLUDE ACQUISITION OF MILITARY BENEFIT FROM PNES. HOWEVER, A SMALL NUMBER OF EXPLOSIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL YIELD ABOVE SUCH A LIMIT SHOULD BE ALLOWED, AND NO LIMIT ON THE AGGREGATE YIELD OF GROUP EXPLOSIONS SHOULD BE SET. MOROKHOV INDICATED SOVIETS WOULD PROVIDE VIEWS ON HOW INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIONS IN GROUP COULD BE DISTINGUISHED AND YIELDS DETERMINED, BUT URGED PRIOR AGREEMENT ON AN INDIVIDUAL YIELD LIMIT. AMBASSADOR STOESSEL PRESENTED BRIEF PREPARED STATEMENT EMPHASIZING THAT ANY AGREEMENT MUST PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF TTBT WEAPON TESTING LIMITATIONS, EVEN IF THIS SHOULD RESULT IN INCREASED DIFFICULTY IN CARRYING OUT PROJECTS. NEXT PLENARY SET FOR MARCH 6. END SUMMARY.

2. MOROKHOV AS CHAIRMAN OPENED THE NIGHT PLENARY BY

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SAYING THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD BEGIN TO DISCUSS ALL ASPECTS

OF A POSSIBLE PNE AGREEMENT IN A CONSECUTIVE MANNER.
HE THEN INTRODUCED RODIONOV TO PRESENT THE SOVIET
POSITION ON YIELD LIMITATIONS.

3. RODIONOV STARTED BY SAYING THE US APPROACH TO PNE YIELD
LIMITS BASED ON TEST SITE THRESHOLD SO AS TO PREVENT MISUSE
OF PNES WAS QUITE CLEAR TO THEM. THESE LIMITATIONS WOULD BE
SERIOUS OBSTACLE IN DEVELOPMENT OF PNE FOR INDUSTRY, HOWEVER.
HE THEN LAID DOWN FOUR GENRAL REASONS WHY HIGHER YIELD
PNES WOULD BE REQUIRED: (A) THE HIGHER THE YIELD OF
THE PNE, THE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS IT IS ECONOMICALLY. HE
SAID AS AN EXAMPLE THAT THE PREPARATION FOR 10 EXPLOSIONS OF
100 KT WOULD COST 10 TIMES AS MUCH AS FOR ONE
EXPLOSION OF ONE MEGATON. (B) SIMULTANEOUS EXPLOSIONS
OF HIGH AGGREGATE YIELD ARE THE CHEAPEST AND MOST
RATIONAL WAY TO CARRY OUT CERTAIN APPLICATIONS OF
INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE. HE GAVE THE EXAMPLE OF A 5 MT
AGGREGATE YIELD FOR ORE FRACTURING. (C) USE OF
PNES IS JUSTIFIED WHERE CONVENTIONAL APPROACHES ARE
NOT PRACTICAL, I.E., WHEN REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPLOSIVES
EXCEED ANNUAL US/USSR CONSUMPTION OF ABOUT ONE MEGATON
OF HIGH EXPLOSIVE PER YEAR. (D) EXPENSE OF DRILLING
HOLES TO GREAT DEPTH FOR GEOTHERMAL APPLICATIONS JUSTIFIES
USE OF HIGH YIELDS. FURTHERMORE, IN VERY DEEP WELLS
A HIGHER YIELD CHARGE IS REQUIRED TO PRODUCE THE SAME
CAVITY VOLUME AS WOULD BE PRODUCED AT A SHALLOWER DEPTH
WITH A LESSER CHARGE. (RIO BLANCO WAS USED AS AN
EXAMPLE.)

4. RODIONOV THEN PROPOSED THAT MILITARY BENEFITS FROM
PNES WOULD BE EXCLUDED IN THE VAST MAJORITY OF CASES
IF THE YIELD OF INDIVIDUAL PNES WERE LIMITED WITHOUT
PLACING ANY LIMITS ON THE AGGREGATE YIELD OF GROUP
EXPLOSIONS. A LIMITED NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PNES SHOULD
BE ALLOWED TO EXCEED THIS INDIVIDUAL PNE THRESHOLD.

5. IN EXPLAINING THESE VIEWS, MOROKHOV SAID THE SOVIETS
AGREE WITH US VIEW THAT MILITARY BENEFITS MUST BE PRE-
CLUDED, AND THAT LIMITATION ON INDIVIDUAL YIELD WOULD
ACCOMPLISH THIS. AT THE SAME TIME, A SMALL NUMBER OF
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EXPLOSIONS OF INDIVIDUAL YIELD ABOVE AGREED LIMIT SHOULD
BE ALLOWED FOR, AND NO LIMIT ON THE AGGREGATE YIELD OF
GROUP EXPLOSIONS SHOULD BE SET. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION
ON WHAT THE LIMIT FOR INDIVIDUAL PNE SHOULD BE, MOROKHOV
SAID THAT THIS WAS A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION, BUT THAT
PROPOSED US THRESHOLD OF 100 KT FOR CONTAINED PNE IS
TOO SMALL. HE THEN SAID HE COULD AGREE ON 100 KT
LIMIT ON INDIVIDUAL CONTAINED PNES IF THERE WERE NO

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF EXPLOSIONS IN A GROUP. LATER, AFTER PROMPTING FROM SAFRONOV, MOROKHOV CORRECTED HIMSELF TO SAY THAT 100 KT WAS TOO SMALL FOR A LIMIT ON INDIVIDUAL CONTAINED PNES. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO AGREE ON 150 KT; THIS WAS A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION, BUT THERE SHOULD BE NO LIMIT TO THE AGGREGATE YIELD OF A GROUP OF SIMULTANEOUS EXPLOSIONS.

6. IN RESPONSE, AMBASSADOR STOESSEL REPEATED THE US CONCERN THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT VERIFYING SIDE BE ABLE TO DISTINGUISH INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIONS IN A GROUP AND MEASURE THE YIELD OF EACH ONE. MOROKHOV REPLIED THAT SOVIETS SHARED THIS CONCERN AND WOULD ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM, BUT FIRST THE TWO SIDES SHOULD AGREE ON AN INDIVIDUAL YIELD LIMIT.

7. AMBASSADOR STOESSEL THEN PRESENTED BRIEF PREPARED STATEMENT (SEPTTEL) DEALING WITH MYASNIKOV AND RODIONOV ASSERTIONS THAT AGREEMENT MUST PROVIDE FOR HIGH YIELDS ENVISIONED IN FUTURE SOVIET PNE PROJECTS. STATEMENT STRESSED THAT ESSENTIAL TASK IN IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE III IS TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE TREATY'S WEAPON TESTING LIMITATIONS. IMPORTANCE OF THIS TASK MUST LEAD BOTH SIDES TO ACCEPT ANY INCREASED DIFFICULTIES IN CARRYING OUT PROJECTS THAT MIGHT RESULT.

8. NEXT PLENARY SET FOR 3:00 P.M. MARCH 6. MOROKHOV SAID HE WOULD DEVOTE HIS PRESENTATION TO EXCAVATION PNES, ALTHOUGH ROIONOV'S PRESENTATION HAD TOUCHED EXCAVATION IN PRINCIPLE.

9. BEZUMOV WAS PRESENT AT PLENARY FOR FIRST TIME; MOROKHOV SAID BEZUMOV HAD BEEN ILL. TIMERVAEV WAS NOT
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PRESENT.

10. RODIONOV IN CONVERSATION WITH HEKROTTE AFTER THE MEETING, CLAIMED THAT SPATIAL CONFIGURATION OF MULTIPLE SIMULTANEOUS CONTAINED EXPLOSIONS FOR APPLICATIONS OF INTEREST TO THEM WOULD BE SUCH THAT LOCAL SEISMIC MEASUREMENTS COULD DISTINGUISH INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIONS. HE CONTRASTED THIS SITUATION WITH THAT OF RIO BLANCO, BUT DID NOT WANT TO ELABORATE FURTHER.

11. DELEGATION PLANS ON MARCH 6 TO REITERATE BRIEFLY US PROPOSAL FOR 100 KT LIMIT ON INDIVIDUAL CONTAINED PNE EVENTS. IN DEALING WITH SOVIET SUGGESTION OF A QUOTA ABOVE AGREED LIMIT ON YIELD OF INDIVIDUAL CONTAINED PNES, WE PLAN TO STATE THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO REPEAT

NO CONTAINED PNE EVENTS WITH YIELD ABOVE 100 KT.
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